

ALVIN continues his work as THOMAS reads.

THOMAS

The Butterfly. By Thomas Weaver.

ALVIN

The Butterfly?

THOMAS

Yeah.

THOMAS continues hesitantly.

IN A FAR OFF LAND
THERE LIVED A BEAUTIFUL BUTTERFLY,
IN A KINGDOM FULL OF BLOSSOM COVERED TREES
AND WINDING THROUGH THIS PARADISE
A RIVER DANCED ALONG
AND PLAYED WITH THE CONSTANT SUMMER BREEZE.

THOMAS stops and looks to ALVIN for some sense of approval or disapproval.

ALVIN

Keep going.

THOMAS

THE BUTTERFLY
FOUND A TINY BRANCH AT THE RIVERSIDE
AND WATCHED THE WATER RUSHING WHO KNOWS WHERE.
CAREFULLY HE SHELTERED
FROM THE POWER OF THE BREEZE
FOR SURELY IT COULD TOSS HIM THROUGH THE AIR.

"I'M A BUTTERFLY"
HE SAID.
"TRIVIAL AND SMALL
AND IN THE GREATER SCHEME OF THINGS
I DON'T MEAN MUCH AT ALL,
SO I'LL FLAP MY WINGS TO STRETCH MYSELF
AND JUST ENJOY THE VIEW.
I'M A BUTTERFLY, WHAT MORE CAN I DO?"

THOMAS begins to gain confidence. ALVIN stops his work and watches his friend.

ONE AFTERNOON THE BUTTERFLY ASKED THE RIVER
"MADAM, WHAT MAKES YOU HURRY SO?
WHAT SPLENDID DESTINATION

(THOMAS)

ARE YOU RIPPLING TOWARD?
WHERE, OH WHERE DO YOU GO?"

THE RIVER SAID, "I'M HEADED FOR THE OCEAN,
AND THE SUMMER BREEZE INSPIRES ME TO RACE.
MY FRIEND, YOU'D LOVE THE OCEAN.
IT'S REMARKABLE TO SEE.
WON'T YOU JOIN OUR FRIENDLY CHASE?"

"I'M A BUTTERFLY"
HE SAID.
"TRIVIAL AND SMALL
AND IN THE GREATER SCHEME OF THINGS
I DON'T MEAN MUCH AT ALL,
SO I FLAP MY WINGS TO STRETCH MYSELF
AND JUST ENJOY THE VIEW.
I'M A BUTTERFLY, WHAT MORE CAN I DO?"

SO THE BUTTERFLY, HE DREAMED OF THE OCEAN.
HE LONGED TO FLUTTER HIGH ABOVE THE SEAS,
BUT THERE ARE DANGERS IN THE SKY
FOR A TINY BUTTERFLY.
SO FROM HIS BRANCH
HE ASKED A QUESTION OF THE BREEZE.

"WHAT MAKES YOU CHASE THE RIVER
T'WARD THE OCEAN?"
THEN THE BREEZE TOLD HIM A MOST AMAZING THING.
"I'M SIMPLY MADE UP OF THE CURRENTS IN THE AIR
THAT START FROM THE MOVEMENT OF YOUR WING,
YOUR TINY WING."

"YOU'RE A BUTTERFLY MY FRIEND,
POWERFUL AND STRONG
AND I'M GRATEFUL FOR THE WAY
YOU'VE ALWAYS HURRIED ME ALONG.
WHEN YOU FLAP YOUR WINGS TO STRETCH YOURSELF
IT MIGHT SEEM SMALL TO YOU
BUT YOU CHANGE THE WORLD WITH EVERYTHING YOU DO."

(THOMAS)

SO HE STRETCHED HIS WINGS
AND TOOK OFF FROM THE SAFETY OF HIS TREE

AND THE BUTTERFLY FINALLY SAW THE SEA.

#19 – Transition #4

*THOMAS looks to ALVIN for a response. ALVIN takes the pages from THOMAS.
THOMAS steps out of the past.*

Alvin had this look in his eyes I'd never seen before. I don't know what it was. He waited for what seemed like an eternity and then simply said...

ALVIN hands the pages back to THOMAS.

ALVIN

Send it.

THOMAS

WAS THAT THE MOMENT?

ALVIN

WAS THAT THE MOMENT?

THOMAS

I MISSED IT SOMEHOW.

ALVIN selects a new story and hands it to THOMAS, taking the Butterfly pages as he does.

Over The Falls.

A story about Thomas and Alvin.

The day I left for college we stood at the bridge throwing sticks into the river...

THOMAS steps into memory and throws a "stick." He and ALVIN watch it float toward the falls where it disappears over the edge.

... and watching them careen over the falls.

ALVIN throws a stick. Again, they watch it make its way to the edge of the falls.

ALVIN

Crap.

THOMAS

Or not.

THOMAS throws and watches the stick's progress.

Over the falls.